

XV.—On two new Species of Birds.

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ABOUT twenty years ago I obtained two specimens of a *Dicæum*, one labelled Manila, the other Mindanao, which, although not quite certain, I believe to be the opposite sexes of an undescribed species, and now propose to characterize as

Dicæum retrocinctum.

Male (from Manila).—Head, neck, back, wing-coverts, tail, sides and centre of the throat, and a broad stripe down the centre of the breast steel or bluish black; a semicollar at the base of the neck behind, a small stripe down the chin, and a broader and longer stripe down the centre of the abdomen scarlet; under tail-coverts white; wings slaty black; sides of the chest and the abdomen white, passing into silvery grey on the flanks; bill black, lighter at the base; feet apparently dark brown.

Total length $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches; bill $\frac{5}{8}$, wing 2, tail $\frac{7}{8}$, tarsi $\frac{1}{2}$.

Female (from Mindanao).—Like the male on the upper surface, but wanting the red at the base of the neck; chin and throat white; remainder of the under surface grey, fading into white on the abdomen, down the centre of which is a stripe of scarlet as in the opposite sex; under tail-coverts white.

Size the same as that of the male.

Colluricincla parvissima, Gould.

Crown of the head, all the upper surface, including the wing-coverts and tail, olivaceous brown; wings rufous, their inner webs brown; over each eye a narrow line of buff; chin pale buffy, with a very faint stripe of brown down each feather; all the under surface rich buff or fawn-colour; bill light horny, darker above; legs and feet pale fleshy brown.

Total length $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches; bill $\frac{7}{8}$, wing $3\frac{1}{2}$, tail $2\frac{3}{4}$, tarsi $\frac{1}{8}$.

Hab. Rockingham Bay, Eastern Australia.

Remark. This bird is by far the smallest species of the genus I have yet seen, as is implied in the name I have applied to it, in contradistinction to *C. parvula*. In colour it differs from the latter in the buff mark over the eye, in the rufous colouring of the wings, and especially in the rich rufous tint of the under surface, which is even deeper in hue than the same part in *C. rufigaster*: the three species are, in fact, nearly allied.